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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS NINE ON RACKETEERING CHARGES

SACRAMENTO—United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today the indictment of SHANGO JAJA GREER, aka G.O., 30, of East Palo Alto, California; JASON WALKER, aka Fade, 28, of Vallejo, California; CHARLES LEE WHITE, aka Shady, 31, of Vallejo, California; LOUIS WALKER, aka Lou Dog, 32, of Vallejo, California; ELLIOT COLE, aka L.L., 31, of Vallejo, California; ERIC JONES, aka E.J. Rabbit, 29, of Vallejo, California; OSCAR GONZALES, 25, of Reno, Nevada; ARNANDO VILLAFAN, 22, of Reno, Nevada; and MARC TARVER, aka Bowleggs, 33, of Vallejo, California for Conducting the Affairs of an Enterprise Through a Pattern of Racketeering Activity, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c) (Defendants Shango Greer, Charles White, Louis Walker, Eric Jones, Elliot Gus Cole, and Oscar Gonzales); Conspiracy to Conduct the Affairs of an Enterprise Through a Pattern of Racketeering Activity, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d) (Defendants Shango Greer, Jason Walker, Charles White, Louis Walker, Eric Jones, Elliot Gus Cole, Oscar Gonzales and Marc Tarver); Violent Crime in Aid of Racketeering Activity, 18 U.S.C. § 1959 - Murder of Devin Russell (Defendants Charles Lee White, Eric Jones, Elliot Gus Cole, Oscar Gonzales and Arnando Villafan); and Violent Crime in Aid of Racketeering Activity, 18 U.S.C. § 1959 - Murder of Larry Cayton (Defendant Shango Greer).

The Indictment alleges that the Pitch Dark Family (PDF), including its leadership, members and associates, constituted a racketeering enterprise, whose purposes were 1) to enrich the members and associates of the enterprise through, among other things, murder, attempted murder, and distribution of narcotics; 2) to preserve and protecting the power, territory and profits of the enterprise through the use of intimidation, violence, threats of violence, assaults and murder; 3) to promote and enhance the enterprise and its members' and associates' activities; and 4) to keep victims in fear of the enterprise and in fear of its members and associates through violence and threats of violence.

Count One of the Indictment alleges that about January 1, 1994, through about July 30, 2000, in the State and Eastern District of California and elsewhere, SHANGO GREER, CHARLES LEE WHITE, LOUIS WALKER, ELLIOT COLE, ERIC JONES and OSCAR GONZALES, unlawfully, and knowingly conducted and participated, directly and indirectly, in the racketeering enterprise Pitch Dark Family through the commission of racketeering acts. The racketeering acts, and the defendants charged, are as follows:

Racketeering Act

Crime

Defendants

1	Murder of Jewel Hart	Elliott Cole
2	Attempted Murder of Jason Hickerson	Shango Greer, Jason Walker, and Eric Jones
3	Murder of Keith Roberts	Shango Greer, Jason Walker, and Charles Lee White
4	Murder of Richard Garrett	Jason Walker and Louis Walker
5	Possession of Cocaine Base for Sale	Shango Greer
6	Murder of Devin Russell	Charles Lee White, Eric Jones, Elliot Cole, Arnando Villafan, and Oscar Gonzales
7	Possession of Cocaine Base for Sale	Louis Walker
8	Murder of Larry Cayton	Shango Greer
9	Conspiracy to Distribute Illegal Narcotics	Shango Greer, Jason Walker, Charles Lee White, Louis Walker, Eric Jones, Oscar Gonzales, and Marc Tarver

Count Two of the Indictment alleges that SHANGO GREER, JASON KEITH WALKER, CHARLES LEE WHITE, LOUIS WALKER, ERIC JONES, OSCAR GONZALES, ELLIOT COLE and MARC TARVER conspired to conduct and participate in the conduct of the affairs of that enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity. The pattern of racketeering activity through which the defendants agreed to conduct the affairs of the enterprise consisted of the acts set forth in Count One of the Indictment.

Count Three of the Indictment charges CHARLES LEE WHITE, ERIC JONES, ELLIOT COLE, ARNANDO VILLAFAN and OSCAR GONZALES with the murder of Devin Russell.

Count Four of the Indictment charges SHANGO GREER with the murder of Larry Cayton.

Defendants JASON WALKER, LOUIS WALKER, ELLIOT COLE, and ERIC JONES were arrested this morning in Vallejo, and will be arraigned in Sacramento, CA on the Indictment today at 2:00 p.m. in United States Magistrate's Court. Defendants OSCAR GONZALES and ARNANDO VILLAFAN were arrested in Reno this morning, and will make an initial appearance today in Reno, NV at 3:00 p.m in Magistrate's Court. Defendants SHANGO JAJA GREER and CHARLES LEE WHITE are currently in prison on unrelated charges and will be arraigned on the Indictment in the near future. Defendant MARC TARVER was arrested Friday night in Vallejo, CA on unrelated charges, and will be arraigned on the Indictment in the near

future.

If convicted, the racketeering charge and conspiracy charge each carry a maximum penalty of life in prison, a five year term of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The violent crime in aid of racketeering activity charges each carry a maximum penalty of death or life in prison, a five year term of supervised release, and a fine of \$250,000.

An indictment is only an accusation, and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jodi B. Rafkin. The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Sacramento and San Francisco Divisions; and the Vallejo Police Department.

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